ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

THE ANALYTIC SUPPORT GROUP
5:00 PM Friday, October 25, 1985

NOTE TO: DI ADP Steering Group

STAT   FROM:

SUBJECT: "Reactions to OIT Long-Range Plan" Memo

Appended is an AIM facsimile of the hard copy memo the ADDI sent to D/OIT this
morning passing on our reactions to the OIT long-range plan. Thanks for your
help in arriving at a DI concensus.

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SUBJECT: "Reactions to OIT Long-Range Plan" Memo

October 25, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Technology

FROM: Richard J. Kerr
                         Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT: DI Response to OIT Long-Range Plan

1. Summary. We believe the OIT plan has many positive features, the most important being the move to a more standard configuration to enable us to take advantage of products emerging in the commercial marketplace. There are several areas, however, where this plan falls short of meeting our requirements. We would like OIT to address these areas. Finally, we believe that this Directorate needs a greater role in strategic planning for OIT services than is suggested for the proposed User/Standards Committee.

2. DI Requirements, Short-term. As we have stated before, the most important immediate need of this Directorate is universal access to existing central services. The OIT moratorium on additional terminal connections prevents us from meeting this requirement. We firmly believe that this requirement should override other plans for network enhancement. Within the past few years, this Directorate has moved much of its substantive and administrative paper flow on-line anticipating that all personnel would have terminals on their desks by the end of 1985. We currently are about [ ] terminals short of this goal. The value of this effort to automate our information flow is diminished by the fact that such a large body of Directorate personnel have no effective means of accessing these systems. When each person in the Directorate has on-the-desk access to central computing services, we anticipate a fundamental change in the way we do business which will dramatically increase the value of each terminal in the Directorate.

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3. We believe that several alternate strategies are available to meet this requirement; some suggestions are reallocation of existing [ ] Center ports, addition of two COMTENS to the Northside Center, and installation of commercially-available port contenders. We continue to argue that OIT resources should immediately be dedicated to meet this pressing need. This need is so urgent that we will accept any device which can access central services and DI applications such as SAFE.

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4. DI Requirements, Mid- to Long-term. Because of the criticality of the mission of this Directorate, we require continuous access to data and many services. To meet this need we would like to move to powerful workstation processors with considerable local storage for DI personnel; ultimately, we may wish to consider local area networks and file servers. We will look to

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central services to provide capacity for larger analytical applications.

5. We require highly powerful workstations with the following general capabilities: display of high-resolution graphics and images; ability to run a variety of commercially available PC software for office automation tasks; sufficient processor and storage capacity to run analytic tools such as notecards, geographic and mapping tools, local database management systems, and artificial intelligence based tools for analysis and an integrated user interface environment.

6. <u>DI Workstation Development Plans</u>. To meet our long-range requirements, we have budgeted for a Workstation and Network Development Program in FY 86. This program will be run and funded by the Analytic Support Group. Our primary goal is to identify a candidate workstation for the Directorate⎡⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎽⎤for FY 87 procurement. We intend to   STAT evaluate the 3270 PC AT as well as high-end workstations such as the IBM "Sailboat" against our requirements. We would like OIT to participate in the development, installation, and maintenance of the new DI workstation.

7. <u>Requirements for OIT Services</u>. Although we intend to pursue our own Workstation and Network Development Program, there remain many areas where we are dependent on OIT to provide central services, connectivity, architectural direction, and access to data.

-- We need uninterrupted access to data, communications, and central computing services.

-- We require connectivity among all DI personnel and organizations.

-- We need to be able to pass graphical, textual, and numeric data in a standard format between different hardware and software products supported in the Directorate.

-- We need an "open" architecture which will enable us to introduce new hardware and software from multiple vendors in a graceful fashion, without necessitating lengthy and costly reprogramming efforts.

-- We need access to backed-up on-line storage for data; this requires a credible plan for increases in storage capacity commensurate with projected increases in volume.

-- We need interfaces to the incoming intelligence flow.

-- We need secure access to external databases with the ability to download data onto the classified central or distributed systems.

-- We need access to Agency-wide services, including electronic mail and administrative support systems to reduce hard-copy exchange of memoranda, forms, etc.

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-- We need OIT's continued support for hardware and communication
   lines in the network, including local area nets.

-- We need support for mainframe-based database management systems
   suitable for DI applications.

8. The OIT Plan falls short of meeting the Directorate's requirements
for basic central services. Many of these requirements were not addressed in
the OIT long-range plan; these are serious omissions which must be addressed.
Some of our requirements for OIT support, in particular the requirement for an
open architecture, can be met by a rational strategic approach to planning the
Agency's network of the future. We therefore believe it is imperative that
the Directorate have an active voice in strategic network planning to ensure
that our basic requirements for central services and support are met.

9. What is Needed: User Participation in Decision Making. We believe
that customer organizations must have a greater role in strategic planning for
the central network because decisions in this area have an impact on our
ability to meet our ADP requirements within the Directorate. The proposed
User/Standards Committee is an important step in the right direction.
However, the Committee or some other organization such as the Information
Systems Board should have a directive role in determining strategic directions
for Agency computing based on user requirements and trends in technology and
standards.

10. Conclusion. Our most significant requirement at this time is for
universal access and connectivity of DI personnel. We believe this
requirement is so significant that OIT should immediately allocate whatever
resources are necessary to meet it, even if this means delaying other OIT
initiatives. We also believe there are significant omissions from the OIT
Long-range Plan which must be addressed. Moreover, a more rigorous mechanism
is required to ensure that adequate service is provided to customers, and
ensure that customers' long-range requirements can be met by OIT plans.

11. We are eager to work with OIT on these issues. In particular, we
would like points of contact to work with us to refine our general
requirements for central services, and to begin work on our workstation
development effort with us.

Richard J. Kerr